

U.S. Department of Labor

JUL - 7 2005

Employment and Training Administration  
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20210



The Honorable John Baldacci  
Governor of Maine  
1 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Governor Baldacci:

It is with pleasure that I respond to the State of Maine's request for a waiver of statutory and regulatory requirements under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). This action is taken under the Secretary's authority to waive certain requirements of WIA Title I, subtitles B and E and Sections 8-10 of the Wagner-Peyser Act. In the Strategic State Plan for Title I of the Workforce Investment Act and the Wagner-Peyser Act for the two-year period, July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2007, the state submitted a request for an extension of a waiver. The request is written in the format identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and 20 CFR 661.420(c), and appears to meet the standard for approval at 20 CFR 661.420(e). The following is the disposition of the state's waiver submission (copy enclosed).

The state indicates that an extension of the waiver of the time limit on the period of initial eligibility for training providers, at 20 CFR 663.530, is requested to address the continuing difficulties in the collection of "all student" information from training providers. Without an extension, the state indicates that many training providers are likely to opt out of the Eligible Training Provider system, thus limiting customer choice. Accordingly, the State of Maine is granted an extension of the waiver through June 30, 2007.

As provided for under paragraph 3 of the executed Agreement, the approved waiver is incorporated by reference into the state's WIA Grant Agreement. A copy of this letter should be filed with the state's WIA Grant Agreement and the state's Strategic Plan, as appropriate.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with you and achieving better workforce investment outcomes. We are prepared to entertain other state and local-level waiver requests that you may wish to submit, consistent with the provisions of the WIA statute and regulations.

Sincerely,

Emily Stover DeRocco

Enclosure